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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/47/L.34/Rev.1 and Add.1)]

47/118. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 530 (1983) of 19 May 1983, 562 (1985) of 10 May 1985, 637 (1989) of 27 July 1989, 644 (1989) of 7 November 1989, 650 (1990) of 27 March 1990, 653 (1990) of 20 April 1990, 654 (1990) of 4 May 1990, 656 (1990) of 8 June 1990, 714 (1991) of 30 September 1991, 719 (1991) of 6 November 1991, 729 (1992) of 14 January 1992, 784 (1992) of 30 October 1992 and 791 (1992) of 30 November 1992, and its resolutions 38/10 of 11 November 1983, 39/4 of 26 October 1984, 41/37 of 18 November 1986, 42/1 of 7 October 1987, 43/24 of 15 November 1988, 44/10 of 23 October 1989, 44/44 of 7 December 1989, 45/15 of 20 November 1990 and 46/109 of 17 December 1991,

Bearing in mind the importance of the commitments assumed by the Central American Presidents under the agreement signed at Guatemala City on 7 August 1987 at the Esquipulas II summit meeting; 1/ the declarations adopted at Alajuela, Costa Rica, on 16 January 1988 2/ and at Costa del Sol,

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1/ A/42/521-S/19085, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987, document S/19085.

2/ A/42/911-S/19447, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1988, document S/19447.

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El Salvador, on 14 February 1989; 3/ the agreements concluded at Tela, Honduras, on 7 August 1989, 4/ at San Isidro de Coronado, Costa Rica, on 12 December 1989, at Montelimar, Nicaragua, on 3 April 1990, 5/ at Antigua, Guatemala, on 17 June 1990, 6/ at Puntarenas, Costa Rica, on 17 December 1990, 7/ and at Tegucigalpa on 13 December 1991; 8/ and the Managua Agenda of 5 June 1992, 9/

Aware that the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America", signed at Guatemala City on 7 August 1987 by the Presidents of the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua at the Esquipulas II summit meeting, 1/ is the outcome of the decision by Central Americans to take up fully the historical challenge of forging a peaceful destiny for Central America,

Convinced of the political will that inspires the peoples of Central America to achieve peace, reconciliation, development and justice, as well as the commitment to settle their differences by means of dialogue, negotiation and respect for the legitimate interests of all States, in accordance with their own decision and their own historical experience and without sacrificing the principles of self-determination and non-intervention,

Recognizing the importance of all aspects of the peace-keeping operations that have been carried out in Central America, pursuant to the decisions of the Security Council and with the support of the Secretary-General, and the need to preserve and enhance the results obtained,

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3/ A/44/140-S/20491, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fourth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1989, document S/20491.

4/ A/44/451-S/20778, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1989, document S/20778.

5/ A/44/936-S/21235, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fifth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1990, document S/21235.

6/ See A/44/958, annex.

7/ A/45/906-S/22032, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fifth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1990, document S/22032.

8/ A/46/829-S/23310, annexes I-III; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991, document S/23310.

9/ A/46/954-S/24354, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1992, document S/24354.

Reaffirming the belief that peace is one, undivided and indivisible, and thus inseparable from freedom, democracy and development, and that these goals are essential for consolidating the transformations which will guarantee sustained, participatory and equitable development in Central America, as well as the need to redefine the manner in which the Central American economies are linked to the rest of the world,

Considering that, at the Puntarenas summit meeting, the Presidents declared Central America to be a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development, and that in the Tegucigalpa Declaration 10/ they established the Central American Integration System, the fundamental objective of which is to ensure the integration of Central America and its establishment as a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development,

Also considering the importance of the decisions concerning human and social development adopted by the Central American Presidents at Tegucigalpa in December 1991, as well as the significance of the Managua Agenda, adopted by the Presidents in Nicaragua in June 1992, when they also evaluated the results of the last eleven summit meetings and adopted a joint course of action for follow-up and consolidation of the agreements concluded,

Further considering the commitments that have been entered into during the negotiations on security, verification, and control and limitation of arms and military personnel, within the Security Commission established under the agreement signed at the Esquipulas II summit meeting, for the purpose of achieving a stable and lasting peace in Central America,

Convinced that the Peace Agreement reached on 16 January 1992 at Mexico City between the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional, 11/ reflects that country's profound aspiration for peace and justice, and that scrupulous compliance therewith will not only permit an end to the armed conflict through political means but also lay the foundation for major political, legal, economic and social changes that must involve all sectors of the country in the consolidation of a democratic and cohesive society,

Noting with satisfaction that both parties have scrupulously observed the cease-fire, overcoming delays and difficulties in the process of implementing the peace agreements in El Salvador, and, through the mediation of the Secretary-General and his representatives, have adopted agreements leading to the final cessation of the armed conflict on 15 December 1992,

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10/ A/46/829-S/23310, annex I; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991, document S/23310.

11/ A/46/864-S/23501, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1992, document S/23501.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador of 23 November 1992, 12/

Convinced of the importance of continued talks between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca, under the auspices of the National Reconciliation Commission of Guatemala and in the presence of the Representative of the Secretary-General, in order to end the internal armed confrontation at the earliest opportunity and to bring about national reconciliation, with full respect for the human rights of all Guatemalans,

Emphasizing the importance of the end of the armed conflict in Nicaragua and the need to consolidate peace in that country, as well as the urgent need for the international community and the United Nations system to continue providing Nicaragua with the support required to promote rehabilitation and economic and social reconstruction, for the purpose of strengthening democracy and overcoming the aftermath of the war and the adverse consequences of recent natural disasters,

Recognizing the valuable and effective contribution of the United Nations and of various governmental and non-governmental mechanisms to the process of democratization, pacification and development in Central America, as well as the importance for the progressive transformation of Central America into a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development of both the political dialogue and the economic cooperation set in motion by the Ministerial Conference on Political Dialogue and Economic Cooperation between the European Community and the Central American countries and the joint initiatives of the industrialized countries (Group of Twenty-four) and the group of cooperating countries (Group of Three) 13/ in Latin America, through a partnership for democracy and development in Central America,

Bearing in mind that there remain in Central America major obstacles to the full exercise of peace, freedom, democracy and development, the final overcoming of which requires a global frame of reference that would enable the international community to focus its support on efforts towards collective affirmation and democratic progress being made by the Central American countries,

1. Commends the effort made by the Central American countries to achieve peace through the implementation of the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America", signed at Guatemala City on 7 August 1987, 1/ as well as of the agreements adopted at subsequent summit meetings;

2. Expresses its strongest support for these agreements and urges the Governments to continue their efforts to consolidate firm and lasting peace in Central America, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to afford the fullest possible support to the Central American Governments in their efforts to consolidate peace, democracy and development;

12/ S/24833; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1992, document S/24833.

13/ The group of cooperating countries, called the "Group of Three", is composed of Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela.

3. Reaffirms the decision of the Presidents of the Central American countries to declare Central America a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development, and encourages the initiatives of the Central American countries to consolidate Governments which base their development on democracy, peace, cooperation and strict respect for human rights;

4. Welcomes the agreements reached by the Security Commission of the Central American countries in the creation of a new security model based on coordination, communication and prevention, confidence-building between the States of the region, as well as the progress made on security, verification, and control and limitation of arms and military personnel;

5. Expresses its satisfaction at the steps taken to implement the vital Peace Agreement between the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional, 11/ and at the flexibility shown by both parties in overcoming obstacles and differences and in maintaining the close linkage between the implementation of the various commitments assumed by them, in order to ensure the full and scrupulous implementation of all the agreements;

6. Welcomes with particular satisfaction the holding of the National Reconciliation Ceremony on 15 December 1992, which brought to an end definitively the armed confrontation in El Salvador, and urges all sectors of Salvadorian society to continue to act with the greatest responsibility and spirit of détente and national reconciliation in order to ensure implementation of the commitments still to be fulfilled, thus making it possible to complete successfully the pacification process and develop normal living conditions throughout the country, particularly in the areas most affected by the armed conflict;

7. Expresses its appreciation for the effective and timely mediation of the Secretary-General and his representatives and extends its support to them so that they can continue to take all necessary steps to contribute to the successful implementation of all the peace agreements in El Salvador;

8. Also expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Colombia, Mexico, Spain and Venezuela, which make up the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General, as well as to the Government of the United States of America, for their constant support and contribution to the efforts to reach the Peace Agreement and implement the commitments which are laid down in it, and urges them to continue to support them until the full implementation of these agreements, which reflect the will and aspirations of the Salvadorian people, is brought about;

9. Reiterates the importance of stepping up the negotiating process between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca in order to achieve the goals laid down in the agreements signed at Mexico City on 26 April 1991 14/ and at Querétaro, Mexico, on

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14/ A/45/1007-S/22563, annex, and A/45/1009-S/22573, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991, documents S/22563 and S/22573.

25 July 1991, 15/ and urges scrupulous implementation of the agreed procedures and progress towards the adoption of commitments on all the issues set forth in the agreements signed at Mexico City, particularly the signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights which they have been considering, in order to achieve, in the near future, national reconciliation and a firm and lasting peace with the continued support of the international community and the United Nations; expresses appreciation, likewise, to the Secretary-General and his Representative for the support that they are giving to the negotiating process and encourages them to continue to provide it;

10. Supports the efforts that the Government of Nicaragua is making to consolidate peace and endorses the provision concerning exceptional circumstances so that the international community and funding agencies will provide their support for rehabilitation, economic and social reconstruction and the strengthening of reconciliation and democracy in that country;

11. Stresses the importance that the continuity and outcome of the political dialogue and economic cooperation between the European Community and its member States, the States of Central America and Panama and the group of cooperating countries (Group of Three), 13/ as well as the initiative of the industrialized countries (Group of Twenty-four), through the Partnership for Democracy and Development in Central America, have for the efforts of the Central American countries to achieve peace and to consolidate democracy and economic development;

12. Requests the Secretary-General and the organizations of the United Nations system to provide, as appropriate and from within existing resources, the necessary technical and financial support to the Central American Governments, and calls upon the international community to increase its support for peace, freedom, democracy and development in Central America by providing resources for their consolidation, so that the region's material limitations do not diminish or reverse the progress made;

13. Reiterates the importance that the Special Plan of Economic Cooperation for Central America, which the General Assembly welcomed in its resolution 42/231 of 12 May 1988, has for the implementation of this resolution, in particular because it provides the underpinning for the implementation of the Central American Economic Plan of Action; 6/

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development";

15. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

91st plenary meeting
18 December 1992

15/ A/46/713-S/23256, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991, document S/23256.